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Attorney Docket No. 17509

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Christiaan A.C. Lippons

Serial No. 10/689,772

Art Unit: 3611

Filed: October 23, 2003

Examiner: Matthew D. Luby

Title: Ball Hitch for Drawbar

Mail Stop: FEE AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is forwarded
via facsimile to facsimile number (703) 672-9306 at the
USPTO on the date set forth below.

May 9, 2005

John B. Mitchell

FIRST AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

This amendment is in response to the Office Action dated December 10, 2004, given in the above-identified application for Letters Patent. Applicant believes that the only fees due on account of this communication are those relating to the Request for Extension of Time; however, should that not be the case, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge necessary fees to the CNH America LLC Deposit Account 14-0780.

Petition for Extension of Time:

Applicant hereby requests an extension of time to reply to the Office Action dated December 10, 2004. The original due date of the reply was March 10, 2005; Applicant is requesting a two month extension to May 10, 2005.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the \$450.00 fee to the CNH America Deposit Account 14-0780.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.